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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application) PATENT APPLICATION
)
Inventors: Barry N. Gardiner)
Paul T. McDonald)
Richard D. Phipps)
)
SC/Serial No.: 08/781,579)
)
Filed: January 9, 1997)
)
Title: SUTURED STAPLE SURGICAL FASTENERS,)
INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS FOR)
MINIMALLY INVASIVE VASCULAR)
AND ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY)
_____)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 28, 1998.


Brian I. Marcus, Reg. No. 34,511

(Attorney Signature)

Signature Date: April 28, 1998

RESPONSE A UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

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GROUP 3300

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This RESPONSE A is in reply to the Office action mailed March 30, 1998.

Amendments

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims,

Please withdraw Claims 32-35 and 56-66 from consideration.

The claims have been reproduced in full below for convenience.